OVR LADYS RETORNE

to England, accompanied with ſaint
Frances and the good Ieſus of Viana in Portugall, who
comming from Braſell, arriued at Clauelly in Deuon-
ſhire, the third of Iune 1592.

A wonder of the Lorde moſt admirable, to note how many
Spaniſh ſaintes are enforced to come one pilgri-
mage for Englande

With the moſt happie fortune of that braue gentill-man
William Graftone Cittizen of London, Captaine
and oner of our Ladies. Writen by H. R.

Imprinted at London by A I. and are to be ſold by
William Barlye at his Shop in gratious ſtreete,
ouer againſt Leaden Hall. 1592.

H. R. In Captaine Graftons worthie deſerued commendations.

Braue noble brutes, ye traiane youthfull wightes,
Whoſe land doth reach the ſentoure of the ſunne:
Your braue attempts by land, on ſeaes your fightes,
Your forwarde hearts, imortall fame hath wonne.
The world reportes, what Londoners hath done,
Freemen I meane, and prentices of worth:
For countrie ſeruice, that are called forth.

A mongſt which of name let grafton haue his due,
Valiant braue man whoſe courage none could quaile:
His actes at larg heere after ſhall inſue,
And how in fight he often did preuaile.
When three to one on ſeaes did him aſſaile.
Seeking by force his ruine to haue wrought:
Which he ſurpraiſed and them to england brought.

Read Graftones deedes, you caualires of worth,
Sureuay his life, and learne by him to liue:
Whoſe bountie kindnes, and valoure ſhewed forth,
If I ſhoulld write the daſtard hart might greeue,
Caſting great doubtes how they might me beleeue,
Yet Ile maintaine, this captaines actes are ſuch:
As fewe I know will haſſard halfe ſo much

[illegible]
at his lodging in London.

SYr knowing your kind nature to be ſuch, as ioyed that your freinds welfare, eſpecially thoſe that for there countries good deſerue honorably to be ſpokē, of as your ſelfe in younger yeares haue many waies ieperted your bodie, in your countries ſeruice whoſe ſcars yet remaine as badges of your forewardnes, and deſire to gaine that your anceſters of fame, long time to there great commendations maintained, the conſideration of which moued me here to fore, from dungaruan, to aduertize you of the ariuall of our good freind, & your eſpeciall fauouret maiſter *William Grafton*, at Kinſall, whoſe succes I wrot you at large, for that my laſt lettres (and ioy of your freindes goon) was ſo gracious with you, as one that loues you both well, I make bold to ſignifie vnto you the ſaide captaines ſafe landing at Clauelly in the weſt partes, where my ſelfe being commanded on ſome buſines of my captaines frō my place, bownd for england, croſſed by horſh windes, whereunto trauelers are ſubiect being deſtreſſed we wear enforced to put in for the ſaid port of Clauelly, where happely I met & well met, this braue gentleman Captain *Grafton*, who as here to fore I ſertified you, hauing prepared hir ſmall caruell called our Ladie fitte for the ſeas, embarqued himſelfe at youholl in Ireland well furniſhed with braue and reſoluit men, & vittailes ſtore, betaking himſelfe to the fortune of the ſeas, where opreſt with extreame weather, doing what men might do by the parmiſſion of God, they endured as long as poſſible they might, til for releef they bare for englād, & at Clauelly againe repleniſhed there decaied victtuals, & other neceſſaries & on ſonday the 28. of Maye being the ſonday next after trinitie ſonday, they ſet ſaile from the ſaid port, hauing all that day and night a faire bearing gall, on tweſday they eſpied two ſaile as much to wind ward as in the top they might deſcry whō they gaue chace vnto, and by tenne of the clock in the morning, came vp with them, which ſhipes were both of Briſtow, the one the Vnicorn and the other a ſmall barke of the ſame place. The companie of

theſe

there two ſhippes they kept vntill the next morning, whē captaine *Grafton* eſpying ſom other ſailes, ſtanding vpō the ſailing of his caruell, which is uery good, he parted with the ſaid Vnicorne & her cōſort, & bare with there late deſcried huls in hope of good hap which according to his worth he doth deſeruedly merit as time finiſheth many things, ſo time and ſhort time hath brought him within the plaine vewe of thoſe two laſt diſcried ſailes, whom they fownd to be two mightie great fly boats who ſeruing the King of ſpaine, ſtraied from the fleet; the ſight of thoſe made diuers of his companie appaled, whom the good captaine with wordes of great courage ſo comforted, that if his diſcretion had not been more for his ſafitie and thers, then there wilfull hardines, they would haue attempted to haue taken the one of them, but the captaine hauing perſwaded them they neuertheleſſe bare vp with them, & thorowly veewed them, and ſo departed, ſhooting a head the biger of them, when captaine *Graftonnes* men that lay cloſe ſhewed themſelues, & were of the other perceiued, there came preſently two ſhot from them which miſt the caruill the leſſer flieboat being good of ſaile, gaue them chace, that day till three a clock, whom the Captaine perceiued and by little & little ſlacked there ſaile, to ſee what they durſt doo, being from her conſart, which ſhe had ouer ſhot at leaſt two leages.

The fly boat feeling vppon the Captaine who made no haſt to runne a way, but determined to change a ſhot or two with them, prouided them ſelues for the ſame fight, knowing well they might at their pleaſures leaue or take, hauing but one caſt Peece a boord, and that the mouth broken, the guner a ſtout & Proper man made readie, by that time all things was fited to the Captaines mind, the fly boat with fourteene or fifteene men in armour wanned them to lee ward, railing and reuiling them, with ſpeeches moſt odious, to whom the guner ſent ſuch a token by his Minion, that with the croſſe barre, he was charged, he ſplit the miſſen maſt in the ſtep, & did much other harme as well in the Captaines Cabin through which it went, as ſlaying ſome men which was ſeene to be caſt ouer boord. Thus for three houres they continued a ſore fight, the Captaine being

euer

euer foreward to boord
there ordinanc otherwiſe ſhould haue done them moſt harme, yet of ſuch height was this foule cart from the Caruill ſides, that their taleſt man migh hardly reach their channell holes, ſo that there was no entering but with great danger, and therefore for ſafegarde of their men, the Captaine gaue ouer the fight; and not of feare for his men were reſolute, and doubted not the good ſucceſſe, and happie conqueſt of their enemies.

Thus neere ſix a clock in the euening the caruill parting, the ſight bareing rome from them, whoſe conſart was now come vp with them, continuing his courſe towardes the Ilandes, with faire and good weather where they had many chaces, which becauſe their actions were little worth to rehearſe, I omit to tell you of the bleſsing of the Almighty, on this worthy deſeruing Captaine, whoſe godly mind and good dealinges with all men the Lord doth reward. Sailing ſtil towards the Ilandes the ſeuenth day after they loſt the ſight of our owne land, (ſilly) they eſpied in the height of fortie two leager, two ſailes the one of them, being of burthen an hundreth and twenty tunne, or there abouts, hauing in her of men forty ſix, furniſhed with ten caſt Peeces, the other of ſome three ſcore tunne or there abouts, with ſixteene men in her, well ſir after the captaine had hailed them, and bad thē ſtrike, they bearing Spaniards proud mindes, ſeeing ſo ſmale a Caruill as this our Ladie of the Captaines, ſcorned to yeeld, but made reddie to fight, and both began with all their force to aſſaile him moſt hotly, the gunner, from the great ſhip, ſhot the Caruilles meane miſſen from the yardes ſhered many ropes and did them great miſcheefe, ſo that with ſplycing and repairing, the ſame company was greatly puſſeled, in this time the Captaine calling for a canne of Wine and drinking hartely to them, deſired them all as they loued him to follow him, and at the next comming vp they would boord her where to they were al very willing, and comming vp with them againe, the Gunner with his broken mouth *Minion*, racked him fore and oft, the barre entring at the ſtarre went thoroughout: then comming vp in her quarter, the Captaine leapt in at their cheane holes, and one other with him who was [illegible] other hand weapons, yet kept [illegible] place, when the ſhippes faling off, he had no remedy, but abide that chance God had alotted them, the company aboord loth to let their Captaine reſt in ſo great dāger came aboord againe, when valiantly they entered, his boy being with the firſt aboord had taken downe their Flag, to the great greefe of the enemie, who now repenting their hardineſſe craued mercie, the other ſmale Shippe ſeeing all the men of Warre almoſt aboord, their Priſe layed the Caruell aboord, but to their great coſt. For there beeing courageous men, entered but ſix of them with their ſwordes and dagers, ſwordes and targates and ſuch as they had, and ſtowed the fifteene Portingauls ſo that they were poſſeſſed of both ſooner then they expected, the Captaine ſeeing the other was taken gaue God thankes for his goodnes, then demanded the Captaine of whence they were, they anſwered (of *Viana* in Portugale, and came from Parmabucca) loden with fine white Sugars, and dyuers Negros, when the companie had made through ſarch for pillage, the Captaine determined to bare for England, which his company willingly agreed vnto, praiſing him that giueth all victories for their good ſucceſſe, firſt in deliuering them without perill from the flie-bootes, next for their priſes, who was able being furniſhed with Engliſh men, to haue beaten foure ſuch Caruiles, with ten peeces and fortie and ſix men, the other ſixteene men beſides Negros, the Caruill in all had but thirtie ſeuen men one caſt peece, wherefore hauing named their priſes, they had men fewe inough to carry home the Caruil, which compelled thē to leaue one other Caruil loden with Sugar behind them, a good pleaſure to the poore Portugalles, which loked with their neighbours to goe for England; thus in fiue weekes retorned the Captaine to Clauelly from whence they went. & ſooner might if God had fauoured them with faire windes. At the ſame port the ſaid Captaine diſcharged his goods royally, paied each man of his company with the moſt, ſo that as well the peſant as the beſt had no cauſe to complaine, the Portugalls his priſoners he kept a ſhore at boord wages, ſo long as they remained with him, and after his buſines ended, cauſing

cauſing the good Ieſus his ſmale priſe to be rigged and victled for three monethes, he gaue her the priſoners to bring them home with their Negroos and mony largly, by which his bountie and charitie to theſe poore men no doubt he gaineth as well loue of God, as fauour and the louing kind hartes of men.

Thus farre with fauour I beſeech you exdcept my ſimple writing and ioy with mee as I know you doo for your freind whom God by his grace hath ſufficiently bleſſed with welth, as heere tofore I certified you, his owne ſhip was the grace of God, who took our Lady and ſaint Anthonie, our Lady ſhe made a man of warre, who hath taken now thoſe two priſes loaden with ſuger the one called ſaint Fraunces, the other the good Ieſus, both of *Viana*, a wonder of the Lorde, to appoint this Spaniſh ſaints to make rich his engliſh ſailours, as by this valiant Captaine is ſhewed, for how many Captaines hath had ſuch bleſſinges as this gentlemã, or who more fortunate, whom Ieſus our Lady S. Fraunces & S. Anthony, hath brought their bleſſinges there news, ther is none worthy to write, but for your hawkes, I hope by ſaint Iames tide to bring you, till then with my heartieſt commendationes, I leaue you to his protection whom I daily pray to bleſſe vs all from Barnſtable in the north of Deuonſhire this 6 of Iuly 1592. yours euer redie to vſe H. R.

Collated O.K.
1/31/35 RS